

REMARKS

In accordance with the requirements of the non-final Office Action dated July 27, 2006, Applicants hereby make the following election of species and identification of the claims encompassing the elected species.

ELECTION

The non-final Office Action dated July 27, 2006 requests that Applicants “elect a single specifically named or completely defined quaternary ammonium compound for the antimicrobial compound as well as for the cationic surfactant.” (See non-final Office Action dated July 27, 2006, at p. 2.) The Office Action further requests that Applicants “elect a single specifically named or completely defined alkyl sulfate as the anionic surfactant and a single specifically named or completely defined amine oxide as the bridging surfactant.” (See non-final Office Action dated July 27, 2006, at p. 2) In accordance with these requests, Applicants hereby elect the following:

Antimicrobial compounds consisting of didecyl dimethyl ammonium chlorides;

Anionic surfactants consisting of C₈ alkyl sulfates;

Bridging surfactants consisting of C₈ amine oxides; and

Optional cationic surfactants consisting of betaine C₈ alkyl trimethyl ammonium chlorides.

Applicants believe that currently pending claims 1-3, 7-8, 10-13, and 23-32 read on the instant elected grouping, and therefore request prosecution of those claims on the merits.

CONCLUSION

Applicants hereby elect the above described grouping for purposes of prosecution on the merits. Further, Applicants hereby elect pending claims 1-3, 7-8, 10-13, and 23-32 in light of the instant election.

Applicants' election is made without prejudice to their right to file one or more divisional applications directed to any non-elected subject matter.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any other fees that may be necessary, or credit any overpayment, to the Deposit Account of McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Account No. 13-0017, with regard to this Response.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: August 15, 2006

James H. Williams
James H. Williams
Reg. No. 56,883
Attorney for Applicants

MCANDREWS, HELD & MALLOY, LTD.
500 West Madison Street, 34th Floor
Chicago, IL 60661
Telephone: (312) 775-8000
Facsimile: (312) 775-8100